

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Mr. DeLoach

DATE: May 8, 1968

M : A. Rosen

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Mr. McDonough

ECT. MURKIN

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

In connection with the captioned case there has been speculation that James Earl Ray concocted the alias of Eric Starvo Galt by combining the names of characters from books by Ian Fleming and from a book "Atlas Shrugged" by Ayn Rand. This speculation is based on the fact that in the James Bond books by Ian Fleming there is a character named Ernst Stavro Blofield and in "Atlas Shrugged" there is a character named John Galt, as well as one named Eric Starnes. Ernst Stavro Blofield is a formidable person, John Galt is a "social drop out" and Eric Starnes is described in the book as a "whiner" from a low-class family.

In view of the above and in order that Agents handling this investigation can be alert to the possibility of Ray's utilizing an alias based on characters in Fleming's books, there is attached an airtel with enclosure to All SACS and LEGATS setting forth a list of the various characters in Fleming's books for their assistance.

ACTION:

Upon approval the attached airtel with enclosure will be sent to All SACS and LEGATS.

Enclosure *5-9-68*

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